IN THE CLAIMS

The status of each claim of the application is provided below.

Claims 1-35: Canceled.

36. (Previously Presented) A method of producing a cDNA encoding a human brain natriuretic peptide, comprising:

hybridizing a probe having a DNA sequence encoding a part of a porcine brain natriuretic peptide to a human cDNA library;

selecting a positive clone; and

isolating the cDNA of said positive clone,

wherein said probe is obtained by digesting a complete or incomplete cDNA clone encoding porcine brain natriuretic peptide with endonucleases XhoI and RsaI.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 36, wherein said probe is labeled.

38. Canceled.

39. Canceled.

40. Canceled.

41. Canceled.

42. (Currently Amended) An isolated polypeptide having an amino acid sequence which consists of the following amino acids:

H-Gly Ser Gly Cys Phe Gly Arg Lys Met Asp Arg Ile Ser Ser

Ser Ser Gly Leu Gly Cys Lys Val Leu Arg Arg His-OH.

43. (Currently Amended) An isolated polypeptide having an amino acid sequence which consists of the following amino acids:

H-Ser Pro Lys Met Val Gln Gly Ser Gly Cys Phe Gly Arg

Lys Met Asp Arg Ile Ser Ser Ser Ser Gly Leu Gly Cys Lys

Val Leu Arg Arg His-OH.

44. (Currently Amended) An isolated polypeptide having an amino acid sequence which consists of the following amino acids:

H-Gly Ser Gly Cys Phe Gly Arg Lys Met Asp Arg Ile Ser Ser

Ser Ser Gly Leu Gly Cys Lys Val Leu Arg Arg His-OH.

45. (Currently Amended) An isolated polypeptide having an amino acid sequence which consists of the following amino acids:

H-Ser Pro Lys Met Val Gln Gly Ser Gly Cys Phe Gly Arg

Lys Met Asp Arg Ile Ser Ser Ser Ser Gly Leu Gly Cys Lys

Val Leu Arg Arg His-OH.

46. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 42, which is freeze-dried.

47. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 43, which is freeze-dried.

48. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 44, which is freeze-dried.

49. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 45, which is freeze-dried.

50. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 42, which is in the form of a white powder.

51. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 43, which is in the form of a white powder.

52. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 44, which is in the form of a white powder.

53. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 45, which is in the form of a white powder.

54. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 42, which is in the form of an acid addition salt.

55. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 43, which is in the form of an acid addition salt.

56. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 44, which is in the form of an acid addition salt.

57. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 45, which is in the form of an acid addition salt.

58. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 54, wherein the acid is selected from the group consisting of sulfuric acid, formic acid, citric acid, tartaric acid, fumaric acid, and maleic acid.

59. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 55, wherein the acid is selected from the group consisting of sulfuric acid, formic acid, citric acid, tartaric acid, fumaric acid, and maleic acid.

60. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 56, wherein the acid is selected from the group consisting of sulfuric acid, formic acid, citric acid, tartaric acid, fumaric acid, and maleic acid.

61. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 57, wherein the acid is selected from the group consisting of sulfuric acid, formic acid, citric acid, tartaric acid, fumaric acid, and maleic acid.

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Claims 38-41 have been canceled. Claims 42-45 have been amended to recite "an isolated polypeptide." Newly-added Claims 46-61 are supported by the specification at pages 3-24, especially pages 22-23. No new matter is believed to have been added to this application by those amendments.